

DESERT EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints.

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SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 25, 1903.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Seventy-third annual conference
of the Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints will be held
in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake
City, commencing on Saturday,
April 4, 1903. A general attendance
of the officers and members of the Church
is requested.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHONY H. LUND,
First Presidency.

CHANGE OF FAST DAY.

As the General Conference will be in
session on the first Sunday in April, it
is deemed advisable that the fast,
usually observed on the first Sunday in
each month, be held on the last Sun-
day in March, 1903, in those Stakes and
wards where the officers and mem-
bers in large numbers will attend the
Annual Conference. This will apply
particularly to the Salt Lake Stake of
Zion and adjoining places. The Pres-
idents of Stakes and Bishops at distant
points will use their own judgment as
to making the change for this occasion.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHONY H. LUND,
RELIGIOUS CLASS OFFICERS'
MEETING.

The Presidents of Stakes, Bishops of
wards, Stake and ward superintend-
ents and members of the Stake Boards
of Religion classes together with the
officers and instructors are cordially
invited to attend a meeting of Religion
class workers to be held at Barrett
Hall on Saturday, April 4, 1903, at 4:30
o'clock p. m.

ANTHONY H. LUND,
RUDGER CLAWSON,
JOSEPH M. TANNER,
General Superintendency,
L. JOHN TUTTALL,
General Secretary.

DESERT SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION CONFERENCE.

The semi-annual conference of the
Desert Sunday School Union will be
held Sunday, April 5, 1903, at 7:30 p. m.,
in the Tabernacle. The attendance of
stake and ward officers and teachers is
urgently requested and all the Saints
are invited. A preliminary meeting of
stake superintendents and assistants
will be held in the assembly room of
the Salt Lake Business college, Tem-
pleton building, at 5 o'clock p. m., Sun-
day, April 5. A full attendance is de-
sired.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
GEORGE REYNOLDS,
JOSEPH M. TANNER,
General Superintendency.

RIGHTS OF CITY COUNCILS.

A local contemporary has been in the
habit of abusing four members of the
City Council, because they have not
been able to see eye to eye with the
mayor on some important public mat-
ters. The excuse for this is founded on
erroneous errors which ought to be ex-
posed; we do not expect that they will
be dissipated from the imaginations of
our contemporary.

First, the notion is conveyed that as
the four gentlemen alluded to were
elected by Republicans, they were in-
duty bound to act in the council as par-
tisans, and to take their cue from their
fellow Republicans in that body. Sec-
ond, the fallacy is set forth, that when
the mayor makes an appointment they
must unhesitatingly concur, or they are
to be considered as "hold-ups," "re-
fractaries," "betrayers of their party" and
"outcasts." Third, that the council in
differing with the mayor "is constantly
seeking to usurp executive prerogative
and appointment."

In taking the oath required by law on
entering upon their official duties, mem-
bers of the City Council were not
placed under any partisan obligations.
They were sworn to uphold the Constitu-
tion and the interests of the city,
comprehending its inhabitants of all
parties and classes. They were repre-
sentatives of the citizens at large.
They were expected to work for the
municipality, not merely for a faction
or a political organization. Each mem-
ber is entitled to his own views of
public policy and should have in view
the public interest. He is not man-
aged by his fellows, or tied to them to
be led hither or thither, or required to
jump at the crack of a party whip. He
should do that which he believes to be
right.

The idea that the City Council must
confirm the mayor's appointments, or
that members belonging to his political
party

held we believe by but one paper in
this city. It is so absolutely absurd
as to need no argument to the well-
informed. To persons who do not know
what the law provides on this matter,
it may be necessary to say, that the
statutes provide for appointments by
the mayor, "by and with the advice
and consent of the City Council." The
council is as much a factor as the
mayor, in making appointments and
also in effecting removals from office.
The authority is no more vested in him
than in that body. This is so plain a
matter that anyone with ordinary sense
need not err therein. Every member
of the council is entitled to a vote on
such an appointment or removal, and
he is not bound to fall into line, either
with the mayor or with other partisan
members. All the epithets heaped upon
four gentlemen who merely acted on
their sense of public duty are scurrilous
abuse, worthy only of the source
from which they are exhaled.

The City Council, in disagreeing with
the mayor on any public measure or ap-
pointment, does not "usurp" any-
thing. It simply exercises its lawful
authority conferred by statute. Our
contemporary speaks of this as "the
vicious system of municipal govern-
ment we have." That is also a mistake.
The system is all right. It is the man-
ner in which it is evaded, misapplied,
violated and defied that is at fault. The
balance of power between the execu-
tive and the senate of the nation and
the mayor and council of a city, in the
making of official appointments, is vir-
tually a principle of our system of gov-
ernment in this country. It restricts the
one-man power that is so obnoxious to
American republicanism. It has proved
of great benefit in this city as well as
in the entire nation. It should be main-
tained and applauded, not derided or
condemned. Every attempt to abolish
it and set up an autocracy here ought
to be stamped out without compunction
or hesitation.

But whatever opinions certain indi-
viduals may entertain for purposes of
their own antagonism to this view, the
law has established the system. It has
worked well from the beginning, it is
a check on the personal projects and
private ambitions of men who ape the
RULER when in office, and despite to
be the servant of the people. The sys-
tem is all right, and is only objected to
by the extreme partisan, the schemer
and the feather of his own nest at the
public expense.

The four councilmen who have been
cast out of their political party by a
vituperative paper, need not worry over
the excommunication (? for it does not
come from any recognized authority,
and is merely the boiling over of un-
seemly wrath, which will be evapor-
ated by the fire of public contempt for
the overflow.

RACE SUICIDE QUESTION.

The discussion about "race suicide"
continues. Most of those who give
the subject a thought, consider the
problem one of the gravest that con-
front the present generation. They find
the decrease in the birthrate among
native Americans alarming, and quote
in support of their fears the alleged
fact that in two generations it has
fallen from 40 to 15 per thousand of
population.

As will be remembered, Mrs. Van
Vorst started the discussion by declar-
ing that among the American-born
women of this country the sterility is
greater than those of any other coun-
try in the world, unless it be France.
The original causes for the sterility, she
said, are moral and not physical.
Among the enemies to fecundity and a
natural destiny there are two which act
as potentially in the lower as in the upper
classes—the triumph of individualism,
the love of luxury.

Henry George, Jr., does not seem to
share in the alarm about this condition.
In a contribution to the Chicago Rec-
ord-Herald he takes the view that "na-
ture" does not make any mistake in
the matter of the perpetuation of the
race. It is nature that provides that
fewer babies shall be born where con-
ditions have reached that stage of
physical ease in which men find play
for their intellectual powers. He ar-
gues:

"In the pioneer state of a country the
families are always large, for men in
numbers are needed to contend with
nature and wrest subsistence from it.
In the slums of a great city, where the
robbery of the mother of much of the
fruit of their labor forces them into a
constant and desperate struggle for
subsistence, nature is prodigal in hu-
man births.

"But wherever conditions of physical
life ease and soften, and the perpetua-
tion of the race is more assured, nature
brings fewer births; the increase of
population is slower.

"Not that harsh things living in the
easier and more refined condition of life
consciously, and after due reflection,
act to this end. They act unconsciously,
and without reflection—by a great
law of nature of themselves—the natural
law of population.

"Just as nature regulates the propor-
tion of sexes, so she regulates the in-
crease of population, quickening the
movement when such increase would
add to the general comfort by increas-
ing the powers of men associated. In
that close state of conscious and un-
conscious co-operation that we call
civilization, or when the continuance
of the race is threatened by great loss
of numbers through war or disease;
but slackening the movement when
such comfort is reached and no such
dangers beset the race."

Similar views, he says, were advo-
cated by his father in his Progress and
Poverty.

LETUCE FOR SMALLPOX.

Medical Talk for March contains the
following brief article, in which it is
claimed that "lettuce is an absolute
preventive of smallpox." We reproduce
the article for what it is worth. Whether
the assertions made are correct or
not, it will not be doubted that the
use of lettuce as prescribed is condu-
cive to health. Here is the article re-
ferred to:

"Lettuce is an absolute preventive
of smallpox. No one is in the least
particular of danger of getting small-
pox who eats a little lettuce every day.
Smallpox belongs to the scurvy class
of diseases. Sailors, at sea, de-
prived of fresh vegetables get scurvy.
Smallpox is another. Smallpox al-
ways rages during the winter season
when the poor people are deprived of
fresh vegetable foods.

"Celery and onions are good for this
purpose, but there is such a long in-
terval between their being gathered
and being eaten that they lose most
of their anti-scurvy properties. Let-
tuce is served shortly after it is picked
and hence contains the valuable prop-
erties which will prevent smallpox.

"We say without the least hesitation
or reserve that lettuce will prevent
smallpox. It is a thousand times bet-
ter than vaccination. It has no ill-
effects, like vaccination, to produce
other diseases. We are willing to stake
our professional reputation on the
broad statement that anyone who eats
lettuce daily will not catch smallpox,
whether he be vaccinated or not.

"We hope that every reader who has
confidence in the people to get lettuce
this along. We wish every person to
know that they have within reach a
safe and reliable remedy. The hot-
houses where lettuce is raised in the
winter time are so numerous that let-
tuce is placed within the reach of all.
No one need be deprived of lettuce sim-
ply because it is winter.

"Ten years ago it was impossible for
the masses of the people to get lettuce
during the winter months. Now it is
not only possible but very easy indeed.
Lettuce is an absolute specific as a
preventive of smallpox. All fear of
smallpox may vanish when this simple
precaution is taken. Should this rem-
edy seem to fail in any case, we would
be glad to be notified. There has never
been a failure up to date and we are
anxious to know if one should occur.
We have absolute confidence in lettuce
as a preventive of disease and do not
hesitate to assure anyone that there is
no danger of acquiring smallpox so
long as the system is fortified against
it by this natural and potent preven-
tive."

WHY NERVES BREAK DOWN.

A contributor to Harper's Weekly
asks whether American domestic habits
are not responsible for the frequent
breakdown of nerves in this country.
He contrasts our mode of living with
that prevailing in England and on the
European continent. The Englishman,
he says, goes to work late and comes
away early, but works all the time he
is at it. His luncheon is light and
hastily eaten. The Frenchman, on the
other hand, goes to work early and
works hard until noon, when he takes
a good meal and a long rest. Then he
returns to his work, refreshed, and
works late. The American has a dif-
ferent system. According to the writer
in Harper's:

"The American goes to work early,
like the Frenchman; like the French-
man, he works hard; like the French-
man, he works late; but, like the Eng-
lishman, he takes no time to himself
at midday. His luncheon is the merest
"snack." It is often cooked badly,
and served worse; it is often eaten
in haste, drawn from a paper in his
pocket, and not served at all. As for
any intellectual repose or mental dis-
traction from the grim facts of work-
ment and rest, it is scarcely strange,
therefore, that Europe should be rich
in elegant American widows and or-
phans, and the churchyards at home too
full of young men's graves."

San Francisco Call.

From those estimates it may be in-
ferred we are to have a good race for
our cup of glory. The Shamrock III, Thomas
Lipton himself is not confident, but he
has a firm conviction that he is to make
a better race than ever before. In his
banquet address he said: "There is no
question that the best boat wins in the
international races. I believe that the
Shamrock III will come near filling that
bill. To my mind she is a marvel in
which life and Watson have outdone
themselves. With good trial races and
no accidents her arrival in New York
should mark the coming of the most
formidable challenger ever sent over."

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

As the new challenger went aboard the
American syndicate which is to de-
fend the trophy announced the name
of the new Yankee champion. It is
the Reliance, and a good choice. More-
over—perhaps as a concession to the
sailor man's superstition—the word
contains eight letters. So, too, did the
names of the other Bristol cup win-
ners, Defender and Columbia, while
Herreshoff's Constitution, which was
shut out in the trial races, contained
nine. Evidently the king of yacht de-
signers believes that there's something
in a name.

San Francisco Call.

One touch of dyspepsia makes all the
difference.

Coming events cast their rumors be-
fore them.

Girls often have more courage to say
"no" than boys have.

If Pauline Astor marries a man with-
out a title it will be her title to dis-
tinction.

Will Mrs. Burdick go on the stage?
She has had almost unprecedented ad-
vertising.

The elk in the Yellowstone park are
not starving. They are simply under-
going a dietary regimen.

General Funston laughs at Dr. Park-
hurst's criticism of him. It cannot be
denied that the doctor is rather funny.

Charles Schwab says he was never so
well as since his return from Europe.
His health must be superlatively good.

Masonic lodges that have undesirable
members are to be thoroughly purged.
No doubt "Shang" Draper was a
very bitter pill.

Joaquin Miller wants to change the
name of the Pacific ocean to the
American ocean. Perhaps it would not
be so pacific then.

And now Mrs. Humphrey Ward is
being charged with plagiarism. It is
the homage that failure and envy pay
to genius and success.

If women inspectors are to be dropped
in New York, it is to be hoped that they
will not be dropped from the roof of
the Flatiron building.

Is the probing into the Kansas City
police department for the purpose of
effecting reform or achieving notoriety
for that place?

Professor Stewart Culin says that
America is the cradle of Asia. Per-
haps that is the reason the Celestials
have such a longing to come to this
country.

Mrs. Burdick testified that after she
jumped out of the window she went to
the Church of the Ascension. That
jump would indicate that she went to
Avernum.

Could the waste water of the Missis-
sippi be stored for irrigation purposes,
how the desert could be made to blossom
as the rose. In fact, it would become
a voluntary rose garden.

So the President, when he enters
Yellowstone park, will have to give up
his gun and have it sealed. Over all
game laws should be signed bearing

this legend: Abandon hope (of hunt-
ing) all who enter here.

De Blowitz's memoirs are being pre-
pared for publication. That they will
be gossip, interesting and egotistical
goes without saying. And say what
they will, most people love gossip and
are not averse to egotism if not of-
fensive.

Judge Reiner is a candidate for a
place on the federal circuit bench. He is
a most affable gentleman and has won
the respect and good-will of all who
have made his acquaintance, whether
lawyer or layman. Wyoming is a tree-
less state, but it has some fine judicial
timber.

The American club of Pittsburgh has
invited Senator Smoot to be its guest
some time in April. This has aroused
the ire and animus of some of the min-
isters of that city who are members of
the Reform club, and they have protest-
ed against having him as a guest of the
American club. Could these small sou-
red individuals have their way, and dar-
ed they express their thought, undoubt-
edly they would cry: "Crucify him!
Crucify him!"

CHALLENGER AND DEFENDER.

Boston Herald.

"I christen you Shamrock III. May
God bless you, and may you bring back
the cup." So said the Countess of
Shamrock, as she dashed the bottle
against the bow of Sir
Tommy's challenger, as the craft went
sliding down the ways at Dumbarton.
The language of the countess is justifi-
fied by popular usage, but not by the
best of taste. A christening is a re-
ligious ceremony, strictly speaking, and
that designation applies only in cases
where a name is given to a person in
the name of Christ. The other day
when our latest new cruiser was
launched, the daughter of the mayor
of Chattanooga said: "I name you
Chattanooga." And, by the way, she
was congratulated by a bishop standing
upon having used the right word, in-
stead of the more common one.

New York Herald.

While Irish-Americans were engaged
in "drowning" the Shamrock III,
Thomas Lipton was buried in floating
the Shamrock III, which kissed the
waters of the Clyde at twenty-one min-
utes past one yesterday afternoon. The
Herald's special dispatches from Glas-
gow this morning show that the new
boat is first of all devised to meet light
weather breezes, such as have pre-
valled in the contests of recent years
off Sandy Hook. Sir Thomas Lipton
is first of all "a business man," and
the special cable dispatch from Glas-
gow in this morning's Herald shows
that he is going about the attempt to
capture the Queen's cup in a business-
like way. It is all very interesting,
but our local committee is "sawing
wood and saying nothing."

New York Evening Sun.

Reliance is a happy name for the cup
defender. It implies faith in the design-
ing genius of Herreshoff, confidence in
the skill of American crews, and, per-
haps, a belief in the kindness of the
Long Island and Jersey winds when the
issue is close, which thoughtless people
call luck. It is the only name of a
previous cup defender that was like
Reliance for meaning, but in vigilant
the apprehension was suggested that
the challenger might lift the cup. Re-
liance is calm, steady, undoubting.
It has the ring of success, it will look
well in print, and its popularity is sure.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

As the new challenger went aboard the
American syndicate which is to de-
fend the trophy announced the name
of the new Yankee champion. It is
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over—perhaps as a concession to the
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Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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